

Senate Bill 233

By: Senators Stoner of the 6th, Mullis of the 53rd, Thompson of the 33rd, Douglas of the 17th, Golden of the 8th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Chapter 11 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to emergency medical services, so as to require the board to administer or approve examinations which conform to the respective scopes of practice for purposes of certifying emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and cardiac technicians; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 11 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to emergency medical services, is amended in Code Section 31-11-51, relating to certification and recertification of emergency medical technicians, as follows:

"31-11-51.

The board shall, by regulation, authorize the department to establish procedures and standards for certifying and recertifying emergency medical technicians. The department shall succeed to all rules and regulations, policies, procedures, and administrative orders of the composite board which were in effect on December 31, 2001, and which relate to the functions transferred to the department by this chapter. Such rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and administrative orders shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, superseded, or nullified by proper authority or as otherwise provided by law. No later than July 1, 2010, the board shall administer or approve an examination for purposes of certifying and recertifying emergency medical technicians which measures competency directly related to the scope of practice for emergency medical technicians as established by the board; provided, however, that this shall not be construed to prevent the board from accepting other additional examinations for purposes of certifying and recertifying emergency medical technicians."

SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 31-11-52, relating to certification and recertification of, and training for, paramedics and cardiac technicians, as follows:

"31-11-52.

(a) The department shall establish procedures and standards for certifying and recertifying paramedics and cardiac technicians. An applicant for initial certification as a paramedic or a cardiac technician must:

(1) Submit a completed application on a form to be prescribed by the department, which shall include evidence that the applicant is 18 years of age or older and is of good moral character;

(2) Submit from the department a notarized statement that the applicant has completed a training course approved by the department;

(3) Submit to the department a fee as set forth in the regulations of the department; and

(4) Meet such other requirements as are set forth in the rules and regulations of the department.

(b) The department shall also adopt procedures and standards for its approval of paramedic training courses and cardiac technician training courses. The department shall adopt such regulations after consultation with appropriate public and private agencies and organizations concerned with medical education and the practice of medicine. Procedures and standards adopted by the department shall be consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

(c) No later than July 1, 2010, the board shall administer or approve one or more examinations for purposes of certifying and recertifying paramedics and cardiac technicians which measure competency directly related to the scopes of practice for paramedics and cardiac technicians as established by the board; provided, however, that this shall not be construed to prevent the board from accepting other additional examinations for purposes of certifying and recertifying paramedics and cardiac technicians."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.